

CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL**
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT
 INFORMATION FROM
 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
 SUBJECT Economic - Agriculture, forestry
 HOW PUBLISHED Weekly, daily newspapers
 WHERE PUBLISHED Prague
 DATE PUBLISHED 30 Nov 1950 - 25 Jan 1951
 LANGUAGE Czech

DATE OF INFORMATION 1950 - 1951
 DATE DIST. 12 Mar 1951
 NO. OF PAGES 2
 SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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REPORTS 1950 AGRICULTURAL PLAN FULFILLMENT

GIVES PERCENTIAGES FOR GRAINS, LIVESTOCK -- Prague, Svobodne Slovo, 14 Dec 50

On 13 December Minister of Agriculture Julius Duris reported on the fulfillment of the agricultural plan for 1950.

The hectare yield of wheat, he said, reached 100 percent of the planned level, and the over-all harvest of wheat was 99 percent of the plan. The yield of rye was 106 percent of the plan and the harvest itself 110 percent of the planned amount.

Preliminary figures on the sugar beet plan indicate 101 percent fulfillment, the first since 1945. A yield of 273 quintals per hectare was attained throughout the country, with 296 quintals in the Czech Provinces and 183 in Slovakia, where there was a certain amount of drought.

The potato harvest was also good. The yield was 102 percent of the plan, or 150.3 quintals per hectare.

There were 100.4 percent of the planned numbers of livestock as of 1 December. This included 102.2 percent of the planned number of cows and 115 percent of the number of pigs planned for the whole year. The planned number of sheep for the entire year was fulfilled by 117.1 percent on 1 July 1950. Sows are the only animals behind the plan. The meat delivery plan is being exceeded.

Duris further reported that in 3,200 obec the small and medium farmers had plowed up the hedgerows of and consolidated 995,000 hectares of land. He also said that 130,000 rural families had joined cooperative farming units, and 334,000 farmers, as well as their wives and children, had become members of the Unified Agricultural Cooperatives.

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GIVES AUGUST 1950 SLAUGHTER STATISTICS -- Prague, Hospodar, 30 Nov 50

In the abattoirs of the Czech Provinces during August 1950 a total of 57,488 head of cattle, 52,241 calves, 116,847 hogs, 1,321 sheep, 132 goats, and 3,636 horses were slaughtered.

DISCUSSES REFORESTATION PLANS -- Prague, Lidove Noviny, 25 Jan 51

The importance of reforestation in the Five-Year Plan for agriculture needs continual re-emphasizing. The drought problem has become increasingly acute in Slany, Zatec, and Louny okres, the Elbe region, and in all of southern Moravia and Slovakia. In these areas soil erosion has been taking place at an alarming rate.

The Five-Year Plan provides for the reforestation of 231,000 hectares of wasteland. In addition, for soil conservation purposes 76,000 hectares of non-arable land will be planted in trees. The plan also provides for afforestation of 10,000 hectares of mountainous and eroded soil, 1,050 hectares of river banks, and the planting of 3,600 protective forest strips in dry areas. Finally, for forestry research purposes 10,000 hectares of state forest land have been set aside.

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